

Remarks

While Applicants believe that their arguments previously raised during prosecution sufficiently distinguish the claimed invention over the prior art, Applicants have submitted amended claims that further distinguish the claimed invention over the art of record.

An Office Action was issued on September 24, 2003, rejecting claim 11 (the only pending claim) under §103 as being unpatentable over Stentiford (U.S. Patent No. 5,384,701). In responding, Applicants re-affirmed what the Office Action originally acknowledged – that the Stentiford reference does not explicitly state that its system can be used in testimonial proceedings. Applicants went on to explain why the Stentiford system cannot be used to convert and translate text in real time in a testimonial proceeding, as it requires the user to confirm the text before any conversion. Moreover, Applicants argued that Stentiford did not disclose “communicating the text in the second language to a terminal for real-time display,” and furthermore provided specific citations illustrating that the Stentiford reference actually taught away from such communications.

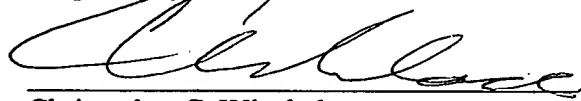
A final Office Action was issued on June 25, 2004, again rejecting the present invention as obvious in light of Stentiford. This rejection, however, was based upon the misconception that the Stentiford system would be much faster than Applicants’ method because unlike Applicant’s system, which requires a user to input the text, the Stentiford system only requires confirmation of the inputted text. The rejection does not address, however, the fact that the Stentiford system does not convert or translate any text without first receiving user confirmation of each phrase. As Applicants discussed in detail, this confirmation step would undoubtedly cause a court reporter to quickly fall behind in the transcription process, and thus, would prevent the Stentiford system from being used in a testimonial proceeding. Moreover, the Office Action suggested that Applicants’ invention would fail because people would not be able to input words fast enough to maintain real-time conversion. Such an argument fails to take into account that court reporters transcribe deposition and trial testimony in such a manner on a daily basis. Finally, the final Office Action failed to address Applicants’ argument that Stentiford does not disclose the communicating step.

Thus, for each of the foregoing reasons, Applicants believe that it has already distinguished the present invention over the Stentiford reference. However, Applicants have amended its claim to include that the claimed invention does not require user confirmation of the received text, as set forth more completely in the claim, further distinguishing the present invention over the Stentiford reference. In light of all of Applicants' arguments and this amendment, Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance.

The Examiner should feel free to contact the undersigned attorney if he has any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

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